### **Beech-Nut:**

# **Competitive Strategies** in Pouch Market



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#### Market Overview

Consumers are less price sensitive to organic pouch

Baby food companies are devoted to target more segments

Fruits and protein ingredients are trending

#### **Beech-Nut Current Situation**

High price mismatches brand image of organic pouch

Narrow price range fails to reach diversified segments in non-organics

Beech-Nut lacks competence in trending flavors





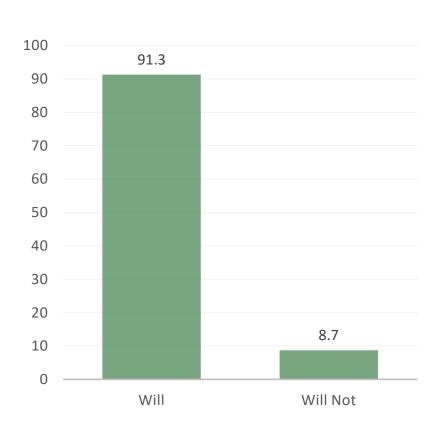




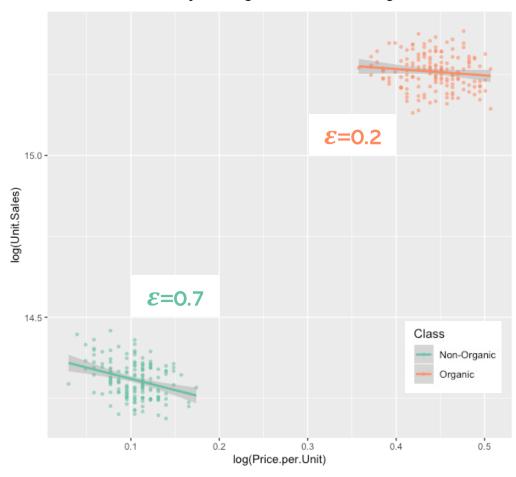


### Customers Are Willing to Buy Organics and Less Price Sensitive to Organic Pouch

#### Are You Willing to Pay More for Organic Food?



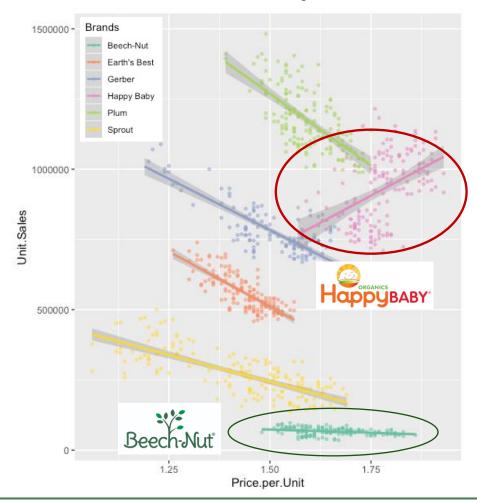
#### Price-Elasticity of Organic and Non-Organic Pouch



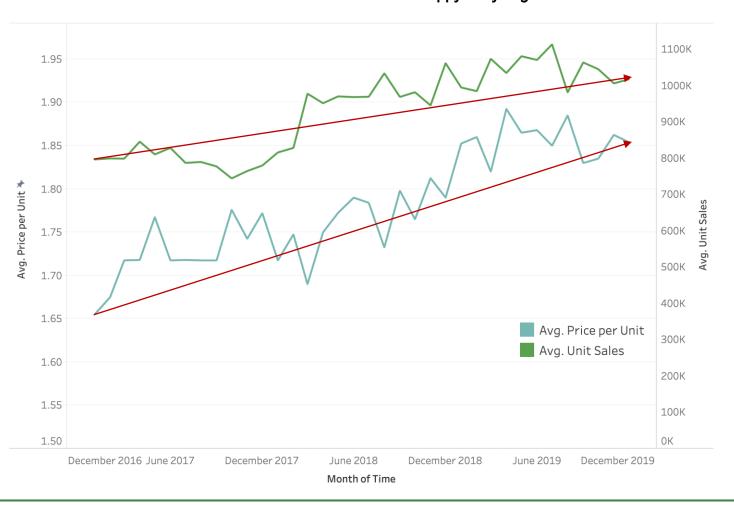


### Happy Baby Has Strong Growth Momentum in Organic Pouch Market

#### Q~P Correlation of Organic Pouch

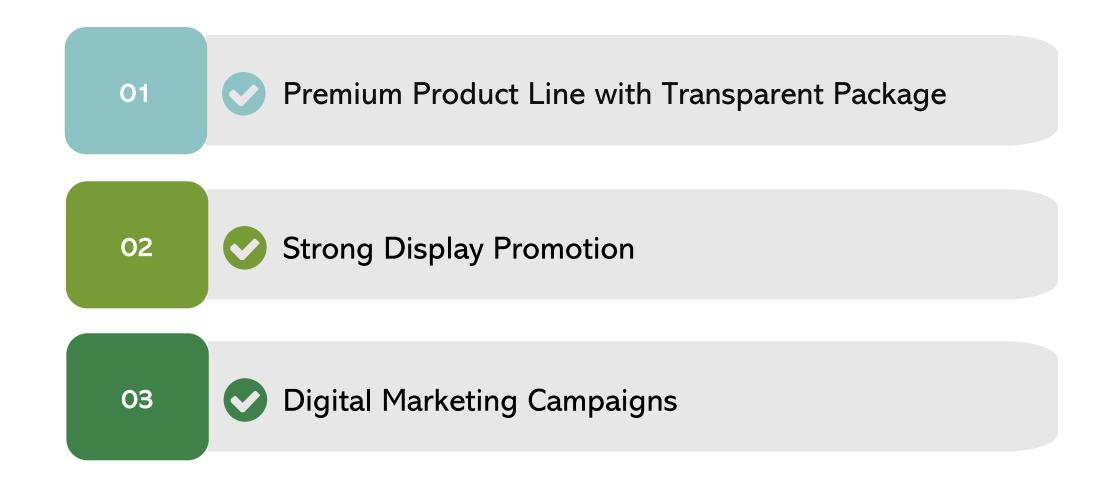


#### Trend of Unit Sales and Unit Price of Happy Baby Organics



Source: Weekly Data





### Premium Product Line Helps Build Brand Awareness and Grab Market Share



Happy Baby Clearly Crafted™ with transparent package

Market Share: 14.1% => 18.2%

Drive a price premium of 9.1%

50% of total unit sales



## Promotions, Especially Display, Help Build Brand Awareness for Premium Product

| Brand                         | Year | Number of Product | TDP, Any Merch | TDP, Display |  |
|-------------------------------|------|-------------------|----------------|--------------|--|
| Happy Baby<br>Clearly Crafted | 2018 | 27                | 612.42         | 108.12       |  |
|                               | 2019 | 26                | 659.48         | 181.29       |  |
| Happy Baby<br>Others          | 2018 | 158               | 769.67         | 74.34        |  |
|                               | 2019 | 134               | 660.47         | 92.91        |  |
| Beech-Nut Organic             | 2018 | 17                | 228.48         | 23.36        |  |
|                               | 2019 | 16                | 143.66         | 2.56         |  |

- A Happy Baby has higher retail penetration of its premium products and emphasizes display to gain the exposure
- ▲ Beech-Nut should strengthen its promotion especially display on organic pouch

Source: SKUS Data



### Digital Marketing Campaign Helps Gain Customer Loyalty and WOM Effect









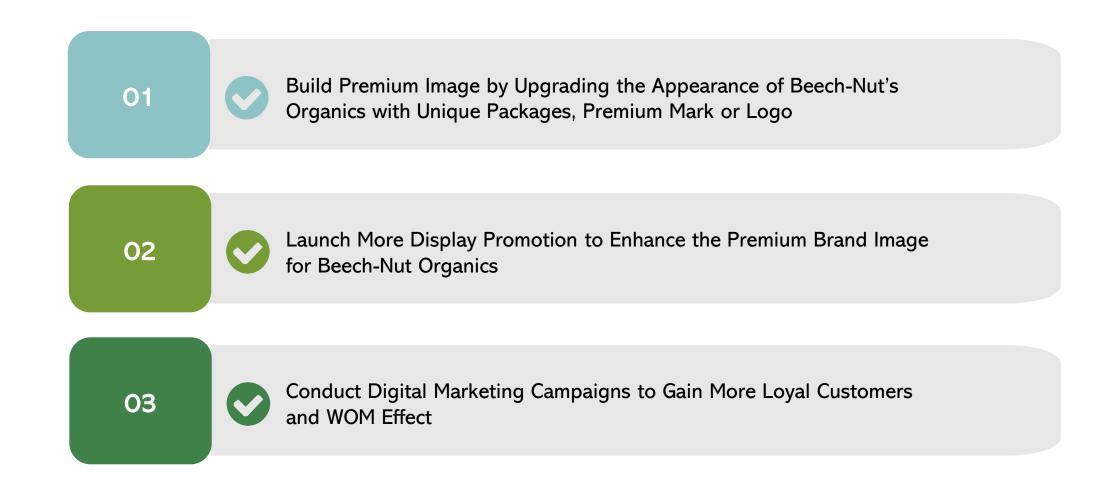
Happy Baby Digital Campaign

**Beech-Nut Digital Campaign** 

- ▲ Happy Baby values building customer relationship on social media, resulting in word-of-mouth effects
- A Beech-Nut also has the potential in making good use of social platforms to build the brand image and maintain connections with customers



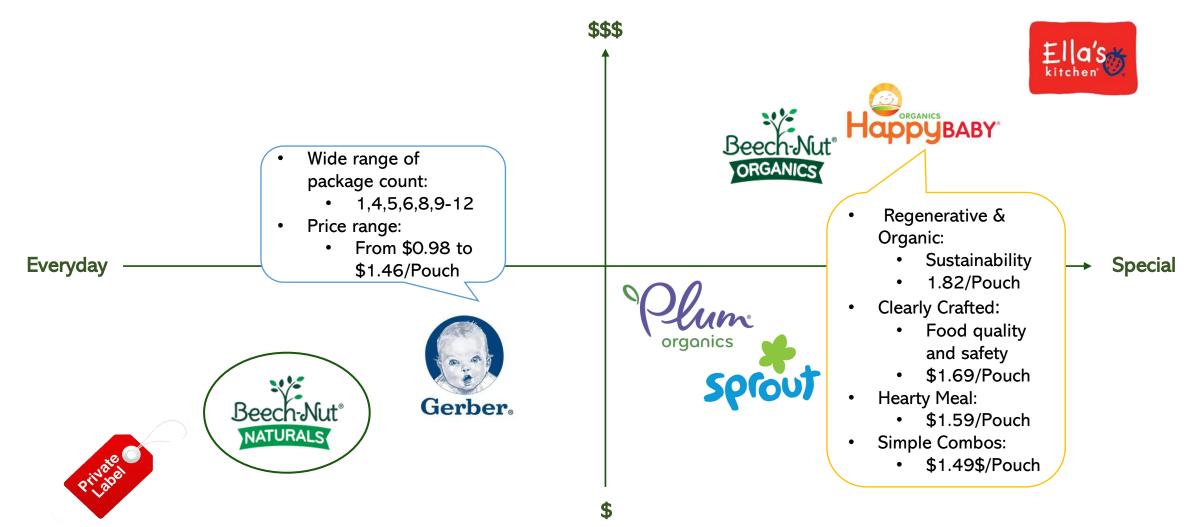
### Recommendations for Beech-Nut to Develop Premium Brand Image







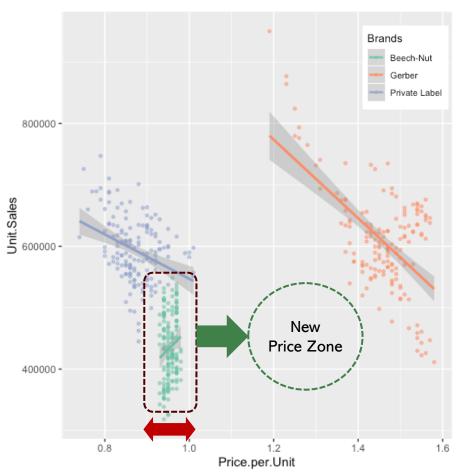
### Main Players in Pouch-based Food Market Are Trying to Target More Segments





### Beech-Nut Should Take More Flexible Pricing Strategy

#### Q~P Correlation of Non-Organic Pouch

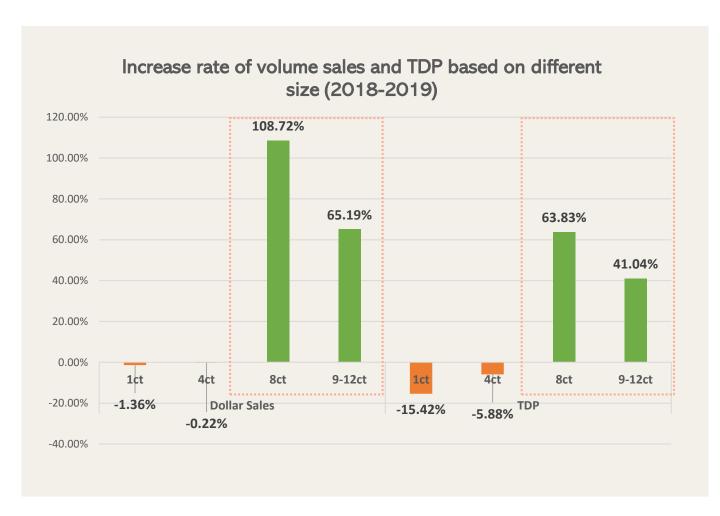


- Beech-Nut takes relatively **stable** pricing strategy and the price range of its non-organic pouch is quite **narrow**
- Beech-Nut could raise the original price for non-organics to avoid being recognized as cheap products like private label
- Meanwhile take some mark-down strategies to prevent the loss of price-sensitive customers

Source: Weekly data 13



### Large-pack Pouch Is a Great Potential Opportunity for Beech-Nut



#### Beech-Nut

- -Only producing small-pack now
- -Having opportunity to fill this market niche

#### Large-pack pros

- -Offering variety
- -Convenience for multi-child families

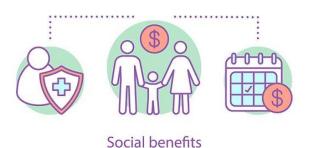
Source: SKUs data



### Cooperating with NGOs to Target Low-income Group







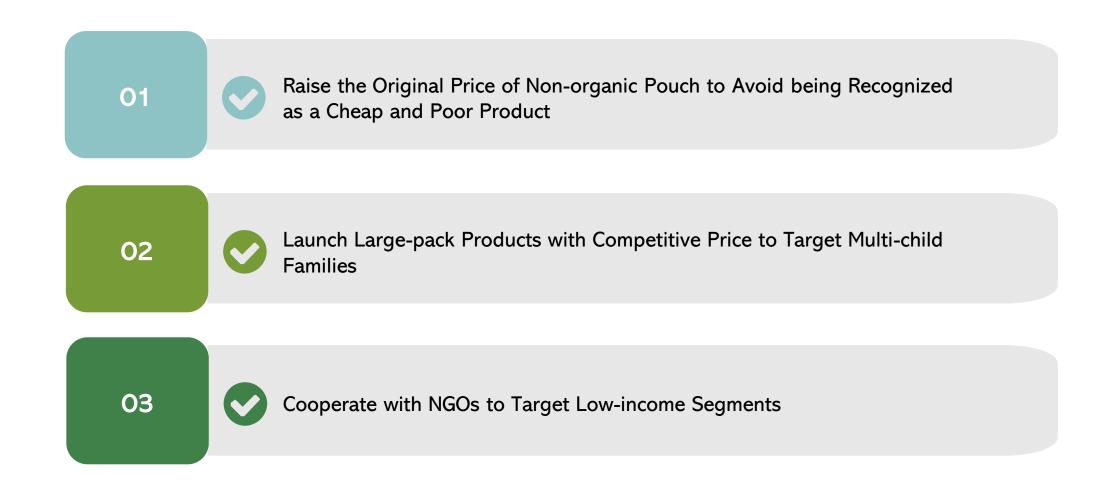
Cooperating with NGOs (e.g. City Harvest)

Distributing coupons along with donated products

Markdown strategies to target low-income family



### Recommendations for Beech-Nut to Reach out to More Segments





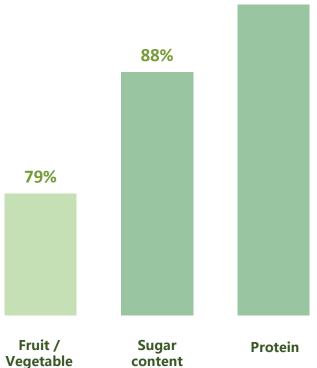


### Baby Food Containing More Fruits and Protein Is Trending

#### **Turf Analysis – Food Purchase Factors**

"Besides price, what factors are important to you when purchasing baby/toddler food?"

93%



▲ Three most important factors when consumers purchase baby food

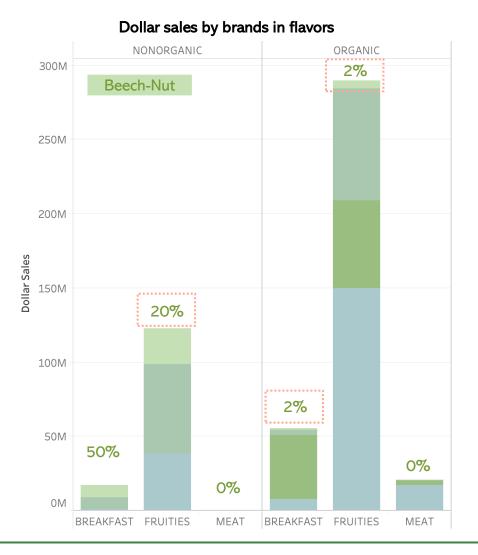
#### Important factors for children food buyers

| Variable           | Importance |  |  |
|--------------------|------------|--|--|
| Quality            | 4.75       |  |  |
| Nutrients          | 4.49       |  |  |
| Taste              | 4.46       |  |  |
| Healthiness        | 4.23       |  |  |
| Purchasing History | 3.99       |  |  |
| Discount           | 3.98       |  |  |
| Promotion          | 3.63       |  |  |

▲ Compared with fruits and protein, vegetables are less popular because consumer of children food also value taste



### Beech-Nut Lacks Competence in Trending Flavors but Gains Increasing Popularity of Breakfast Flavor

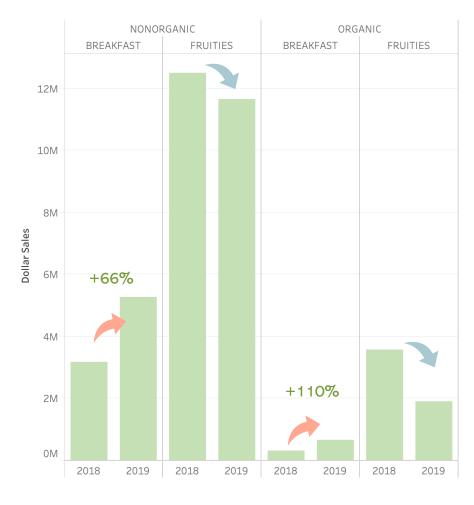


 Beech-Nut lacks competence in trending flavors, especially in organic market

Fruities flavor accounts for more sales of Beech-Nut but faces fierce competition

 Beech-Nut gains increasing competence and popularity of breakfast flavor

#### Dollar sales of Beech-Nut in flavors



Source: POUCH DATA- SKUs



### Beech-Nut Should Use More TPR on Fruities Flavor in Non-Organic Market

#### Promotion of Beech-Nut and Gerber on Fruities flavor in Non-Organic Market

| Non-Organic              | Beech    | n-Nut      | Gerber   |            |  |  |
|--------------------------|----------|------------|----------|------------|--|--|
|                          | Fruities | Percentage | Fruities | Percentage |  |  |
| TDP Any Merch            | 459.53   | 58%        | 1513.52  | 68%        |  |  |
| TDP TPR                  | 232.05   | 29%        | 1357.41  | 61%        |  |  |
| TDP Feature              | 335.6    | 43%        | 847.91   | 38%        |  |  |
| TDP Display              | 36.84    | 5%         | 118.02   | 5%         |  |  |
| TDP Feature /<br>Display | 355.09   | 45%        | 889.09   | 40%        |  |  |
| TDP                      | 788.9    | 100%       | 2225.4   | 100%       |  |  |

▲ Gerber accounts for 49% of dollar sales of Fruities flavor while Beech-Nut accounts for 20%

Gerber uses **deeper** and **broader** promotion on Fruities flavor

Among all the promotion methods, Gerber focuses more on **TPR** when promoting Fruities flavor

Source: POUCH DATA- SKUs 20



## Beech-Nut Should Use More TPR and Feature on Fruities and Breakfast Flavors in Organic Market

#### Promotion of Beech-Nut and Plum on Fruities and Breakfast flavors in Organic market

| Organic                     | Beech-Nut |            |          | Plum       |           |            |          |            |
|-----------------------------|-----------|------------|----------|------------|-----------|------------|----------|------------|
|                             | Breakfast | Percentage | Fruities | Percentage | Breakfast | Percentage | Fruities | Percentage |
| TDP Any<br>Merch            | 154.72    | 55%        | 666.27   | 61%        | 726.78    | 73%        | 1128.85  | 68%        |
| TDP TPR                     | 109.41    | 39%        | 419.32   | 38%        | 546.69    | 55%        | 929.74   | 56%        |
| TDP<br>Feature              | 80.22     | 29%        | 394.65   | 36%        | 591.59    | 59%        | 750.71   | 45%        |
| TDP<br>Display              | 13.37     | 5%         | 53.09    | 5%         | 96.82     | 10%        | 103.88   | 6%         |
| TDP<br>Feature /<br>Display | 89.01     | 32%        | 426.81   | 39%        | 619.6     | 62%        | 786.7    | 47%        |
| TDP                         | 280.9     | 100%       | 1090.7   | 100%       | 1000.7    | 100%       | 1657.8   | 100%       |

▲ Plum accounts for 79% of dollar sales of Breakfast flavor while Beech-Nut accounts for 2%

Plum accounts for 20% of dollar sales of Fruities flavor while Beech-Nut accounts for 2%

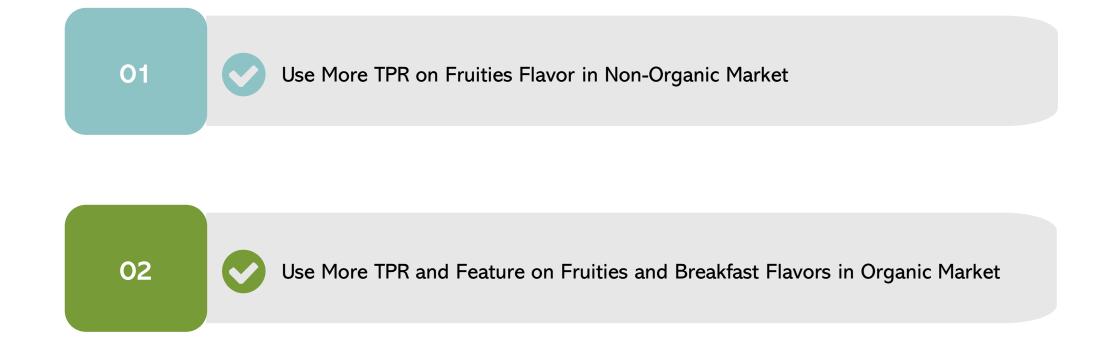
Plum uses deeper and broader promotion on both flavors

TPR and Feature are most valued by Plum among promotion methods.

Source: POUCH DATA- SKUs 21



### Recommendations for Beech-Nut to Explore Potential of Flavors





#### Recommendations



- 1. Upgrade Package Appearance
- 2. Launch More Display
- 3. Conduct Digital Marketing Campaigns



- 1. Raise the Original Price of Non-organic
- 2. Launch Large Size Packages with Competitive Price
- 3. Cooperate with NGOs



- 1. Use more TPR On Fruities Flavor for Non-Organics
- 2. Use more TPR and Feature On Fruities and Breakfast Flavors for Organics

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